

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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R 311351Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7530
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2805

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, CARICON, CU, GY
SUBJECT: CUBAN TRADE MISSION VISITS GUYANA; MEETS WITH
CARICOM SECRETARIAT

1. A FIVE MAN CUBAN TRADE MISSION ARRIVED IN GEORGETOWN AUGUST 23 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH STATE CORPORATIONS CONCERNING BAUXITE, SUGAR AND TIMBER, ACCORDING TO LOCAL MEDIA. THE TEAM IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN ABOUT A WEEK. CUBA IS GUYANA'S PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER OF CEMENT, AND NEGOTIATIONS WERE EXPECTED TO CENTER UPON BILATERAL TRADE, PARTICULARLY IN INCREASING GUYANA'S EXPORTS TO CUBA.

2. TWO MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION, ABDO SOTO, CUBAN TRADE COMMISSIONER TO CARICOM AND HORACIO REYES-LOVIO, CHIEF OF THE CARIBBEAN SECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, ARRIVED ONE DAY EARLY AND MET WITH CARL DUNDAS, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE CARICOM SECRETARIAT, ON AUGUST 23 TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CARIBBEAN INTEGRATION MOVEMENT. A CARICOM PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCED THAT ANOTHER TWO CUBAN EXPERTS WILL SOON VISIT

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THE SECRETARIAT "TO EXCHANGE VIEWS...IN CERTAIN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE INTEGRATION PROCESS."

3. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TRADE MISSION ARE: PEDRO GRANIOLA OF THE CUBAN EXPORT DIVISION (SIC), AND TOMAS RODRIGUES AND JOSE ALBERTO OF THE CUBAN COMPANY "MA-PRINTERS."

4. COMMENT: GUYANA RAN BILATERAL TRADE DEFICITS IN 1976 AND 1977 WITH ITS COUNCIL OF MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (CMEA) TRADING PARTNERS, AND UNDOUBTEDLY HOPES THAT ITS POLITICAL STANCE GENERALLY FAVORING THE INTERNATIONAL POLICIES OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WILL ENCOURAGE A MORE FAVORABLE TRADING PATTERN. WHILE DISCUSSIONS OF SUGAR AND TIMBER ARE UNEXCEPTIONAL, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SUGGEST IN WHAT MANNER CUBA MIGHT MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE GUYANESE BAUXITE TRADE.
BURKE

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Message Attributes

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